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(54) Vehicle Sideview Mirror with Light

A vehicle sideview mirror with a light (3) that is fastened immovably toward the back and down in a sideview mirror holder (2) on a vehicle front side door (4). The light (3) can be switched on at a distance to the vehicle from the portable transmitter of an infrared remote control, which then illuminates the entry area on one side of the vehicle.

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## What is claimed is:

1. A vehicle sideview mirror with a light that is fastened via a sideview mirror holder on a vehicle front side door in such a way that it is directed toward the back and down and which, when turned on, illuminates the entry area on one side of the vehicle, characterized in that the light (3) is disposed stationary in the sideview mirror holder (2), which is immovably connected to the vehicle door (4), and can be turned on by means of an infrared remote control that incorporates a receiver disposed on the vehicle and a portable transmitter.

2. A vehicle sideview mirror according to claim 1, with a centrally controlled locking system on the vehicle doors, which can be unlocked by means of an infrared remote control, characterized in that the infrared remote control turns on the light (3) in the vehicle sideview mirror (1) when the vehicle doors (4) are being unlocked.

## Description

The present invention is concerned with a vehicle sideview mirror with a light that has the characteristics defined in the preamble of the main claim.

A vehicle sideview mirror of this type with a light is known from European Patent 00 49 252. The light is disposed below the vehicle sideview mirror and pivotable around a holding shank that extends approximately vertically downward from the mirror housing. The light turns on when the vehicle is put into reverse gear and illuminates the side of the driving lane and the rear wheels to facilitate backing up when it is dark. The disadvantage is that this light serves merely as a reversing light and can be switched on only by a person who is inside the vehicle by engaging reverse gear. If the vehicle is parked on uneven roads, for example, it can happen, particularly after rainfalls, that water accumulates in the entry area. If this goes unnoticed, for example at night, items of clothing can easily become wet and dirty when a person enters the vehicle. It can also happen that persons in the entry area

of the vehicle fall if they do not notice the uneven terrain.

It is therefore the object of the invention to present a vehicle sideview mirror with a light according to the preamble of the main claim wherein the light illuminates the entry area of the vehicle, without disturbing the vehicle traffic, before a person enters the vehicle.

This object is met in such a way that the light is disposed stationary in the sideview mirror holder, which is immovably connected to the vehicle door, and can be switched on by means of an infrared remote control that incorporates a receiver disposed on the vehicle and a portable transmitter. It is of particular advantage that the light, which permits an overview of the terrain in the entry area of the vehicle, can be switched on via the infrared remote control from a distance to the vehicle. This makes it possible to walk around accumulations of water and prevent falls. The stationary placement of the light in the non-adjustable sideview mirror holder ensures that the illumination from the light is directed only to the entry area and not into the vehicle traffic.

If the vehicle doors of a vehicle are provided with a centrally controlled locking system that can be unlocked by means of an infrared remote control, the light is switched on by this infrared remote control when the vehicle doors are unlocked. The remote controlled simultaneous unlocking of the vehicle doors and switching on of the light significantly facilitates entering the vehicle.

One embodiment of the invention will be explained in more detail with the aid of a drawing, which shows a side view of the vehicle sideview mirror with light disposed on the passenger side.

The single figure of the drawing shows a vehicle sideview mirror 1 that is disposed on the right passenger side of a motor vehicle. This vehicle sideview mirror 1 is connected in a manner not shown to a sideview mirror holder 2, which is immovably fastened in the front region of the lower edge of the window opening on the right vehicle door 4. The vehicle sideview mirror 1 is adjusted in the usual manner by the driver of the vehicle and permits the observation of the traffic to the side and behind the vehicle from the driver's seat. Disposed in

the outside mirror holder 2 in a stationary manner is a light 3 that is directed diagonally toward the back and down onto the entry area. The illumination 5 coming from the light 3 is directed downward in such a way that other road users are not blinded. The bulb of the light 3 is additionally disposed inside the sideview mirror holder 2 in such a way that it is not visible to the drivers of vehicles. In the presented embodiment the vehicle doors 4 of the vehicle are provided with a centrally controlled locking system, which can be unlocked by means of the portable transmitter of an infrared remote control. The receiver of the infrared remote control may be disposed at any random location on the vehicle. When the vehicle doors are being unlocked by an appropriate actuation of the transmitter from not too far a distance to the vehicle, the light 3 turns on. The light 3 is coupled, for example, with a switching device that is known *per se*, which turns the light off after a pre-set time. However, this may also take place manually, e.g., by means of a switch that is disposed inside the vehicle. A vehicle sideview mirror of this type may also be provided on the driver's side or on both sides of the vehicle.

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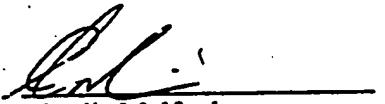
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**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that I am a qualified translator in the German and English languages.  
I furthermore certify that the appended 4-page translation is, to the best of my knowledge  
and belief, a true and accurate rendition into English of the German patent document  
DE 36 35 471 A1 with the title "Fahrzeugaubenspiegel mit Leuchte" (Vehicle Sideview  
Mirror with Light).

Date: September 9, 2002



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